



Fire hydrants and cleaning of intersections

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To: Donald Duckworth <duckworth.donald@gmail.com>

Don,

Here is what I found out. Sorry for the delay. I've been out with bronchitis so I've been on injured reserve...

Fire Hydrants — MBIA Approval?

LAFD no longer paints fire hydrants. They don't exactly care though if others paint them since people just do it anyway. However, they don't want the threads or stems painted over. You just have to be careful and make sure the paint doesn't get in the cracks and inside. They also prefer if people paint the same color, and not a picture of something. If the BID wants to paint the fire hydrants, then it can do so and won't cause problems.

Cleaning traffic signals/poles — MBIA comments?

I talked to both LADOT and the Office of Community Beautification. The bottom line is they will get cleaned if reported, but not completely. Here are the details.

LADOT will occasionally clean traffic signal heads, but they rarely do. They just don't have the funding anymore for those crews unless it's an urgent thing. They also prefer if cleaning crews, specifically the companies the city contracts out to for graffiti clean up, stay away from them. They don't want electrical problems and signals going out. However, the companies sometimes clean them by being very careful and just scraping the big pieces off to make them look decent. They won't paint over them or anything, but there are exceptions to that too if maybe a small mark of graffiti is on there. The Office of Community Beautification is under the Board of Public Works. The Board of Public Works approves the contracts that are given out for graffiti clean up. Pacific Graffiti Solutions is the company that handles the Melrose area. Sometimes they proactively clean traffic signals without them being reported. It's all part of their work and showing the city they keep their area clean enough so they get their contract again. If we want the entire intersection (poles and traffic signals) cleaned, then a request must go through the city and it will be done. The city will help make sure a lot of it is cleaned, but if we have 20 intersections on Melrose in the BID, then that can take some time. I suggest that someone from the BID make these requests on some consistent basis (I can show them how) and see how it goes. I drove Melrose Avenue, and not all the intersections are bad, but many of them need to be cleaned. I drove Melrose Avenue and many of the intersections are okay, but many are dirty. I'll report each one so they get cleaned. We'll see how it goes and I'll report back.

What do you think?

Thanks,

—
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